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General and complete disarmament

Letter dated 28 October 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

I wish to draw your attention to the unreasonable arguments regarding the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula made by the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the First Committee of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.

The United States and the United Kingdom at the First Committee made an attempt to mislead the world opinion by urging the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to dismantle its nuclear weapons programme unconditionally, according to the Beijing joint statement, as if it carries only the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This United States approach towards the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula is a typical manifestation of its double standards.

The majority of the non-nuclear weapon States, expressing serious concern over the paralysis of the United Nations disarmament machinery, correctly pointed out that it is mainly attributable to the failure of the United States and certain other nuclear weapon States to fulfil their commitments to nuclear disarmament and the application of double standards on nuclear issues.

Although the United States talks loudly about the "nuclear non-proliferation", in reality it connives at and even supports its allies' development and production of nuclear weapons while openly posing nuclear threats to those independent and non-nuclear weapon States whom it detests.

As was stated on several occasions, the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula is the direct product of the hostile United States policy against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea extended over half a century.

The Beijing joint statement has clearly stipulated the obligations of the United States and south Korea, the responsible parties for the denuclearization of the

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Korean peninsula, as well as the principles of simultaneous actions, besides the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

However, in violation of the principles of simultaneous actions agreed upon among the six parties, the United States is again demanding that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea should abandon its nuclear programme first on the basis of complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement (CVID), and is staging a noisy campaign to pressure the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by bringing utterly groundless charges such as "human rights issues" and "illegal deals".

These moves on the part of the United States go entirely against the spirit of the joint statement, the co-product of the six parties, and we cannot but doubt the will of the United States to implement the joint statement.

It is our consistent stand to make the whole of the Korean peninsula denuclearized.

However, I wish to stress once again that the denuclearization cannot be achieved only through our unilateral abandoning of nuclear programmes.

We have only weeks running up to the fifth round of six-party talks.

We will watch closely how the United States moves when it comes to the phase of "action for action".

The fair resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula and in particular the prospect of the fifth round of six-party talks depend entirely on the United States attitude to implementing its obligations of ending nuclear threats and the provision of light water reactors in line with the joint statement of the fourth round of six-party talks.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 97, "General and complete disarmament".

(*Signed*) **Pak** Gil Yon